

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/633,734

Applicant(s)

LINDHOLM, ERIC A.

Examiner

Laura Edwards

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the supplemental amendment filed as of 6/16/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4, 6, 7, 16, 17, and 21-24 which have been renumbered as claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 2, 3, 5, and 6 respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 May 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 062005.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


LAURA EDWARDS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Daniel Kim on 6/20/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

In claim 16, line 4, "the base" has been changed to --a base--.

In claim 16, line 5, "entrance aperture" has been removed.

In claim 17, line 4, "the base" has been changed to --a base--.

In claim 17, line 5, "entrance aperture" has been removed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 4, 21, and 22 are allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a fiber coating applicator comprising the combination of a chamber, a cup positioned over the chamber, an entrance die assembly mounted into a chamber entrance opening between the cup and chamber, the entrance die assembly including an entrance die insert mounted in an entrance fitting, the entrance fitting held by an entrance set screw screwed into the chamber entrance opening, the entrance die insert having an entrance aperture therethrough connecting the cup to the chamber, the chamber including an exit aperture opposite the entrance aperture

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wherein the cup, entrance aperture, chamber, and exit aperture define a pathway for a fiber to be coated, the chamber including an input port for pumping coating into the chamber, the entrance aperture dimensioned such that the fiber travels along the pathway and coating is pumped into the chamber upward through the entrance aperture around the fiber into the cup, the upward flow being restricted by the fiber and entrance aperture to establish hydrostatic pressure in the chamber the exit aperture dimensioned to shape coating around the fiber.

Claims 6, 23, and 24 are allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a fiber coating applicator comprising the combination of a chamber, a cup positioned over the chamber, a shaping die assembly mounted into a chamber exit opening in the chamber opposite the entrance aperture, the shaping die assembly including an exit die insert mounted into an exit fitting, the exit fitting held in position by an exit set screw that is screwed into the chamber exit opening, the exit die insert having an exit aperture there through opposite the entrance aperture wherein the cup, the entrance aperture, chamber, and exit aperture define a pathway for a fiber to be coated, the chamber including an input port for pumping coating into the chamber, the entrance aperture dimensioned such that the fiber travels along the pathway and coating is pumped into the chamber upward through the entrance aperture around the fiber into the cup, the upward flow of coating restricted by the fiber and entrance aperture to establish hydrostatic pressure in the chamber, the exit aperture dimensioned to shape coating around the fiber.

Claim 7 is allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a fiber coating applicator comprising the combination of a chamber, a cup positioned over the chamber, the cup connected to the chamber by an entrance aperture, the chamber including an exit aperture

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opposite the entrance aperture wherein the cup, entrance aperture, chamber, and exit aperture define a pathway for a fiber to be coated, the chamber further including an input port for pumping coating into the chamber, the entrance aperture being dimensioned such that as the fiber travels along the pathway and coating is pumped into the chamber, the coating travels upward through the entrance aperture around the fiber into the cup, the upward flow of coating being restricted by the fiber and entrance aperture to establish hydrostatic pressure in the chamber, the exit aperture being dimensioned to shape coating around the fiber, the chamber including a flexible gooseneck, the applicator further including at least one translation stage for adjusting the relative positions of the entrance and exit aperture.

Claim 16 is allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a fiber coating applicator comprising the combination of a body in which there is formed a cup positioned over a chamber, the cup and the chamber connected to each other by a chamber entrance opening, the body further including a chamber exit opening at a base of the chamber opposite the chamber entrance opening, the chamber entrance opening being threaded to receive an entrance set screw to hold an entrance die assembly in position and the chamber exit opening being threaded to receive an exit set screw to hold a shaping die assembly in position, the body further including an input port into the chamber for pumping coating into the chamber, and a drain port leading out of the cup for draining coating out of the body wherein the cup, chamber entrance opening, chamber, and chamber exit opening define a coating pathway in which a fiber enters the body through the cup, passes through an entrance aperture in an entrance die mounted into the entrance die assembly, passes through the chamber, and exits the body through an exit aperture in an exit die mounted into the shaping die assembly, the entrance aperture dimensioned

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such that the fiber travels along the coating pathway and coating is pumped into the chamber and travels upward through the entrance aperture around the fiber into the cup, with excess coating being drained out of the cup through the drain port, the upward flow of coating being sufficiently restricted by the fiber and the entrance aperture such that there is hydrostatic pressure in the chamber.

Claim 17 is allowable because there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of a fiber coating applicator comprising the combination of a body in which there is formed a cup positioned over a chamber, the cup and the chamber connected to each other by a chamber entrance opening, the body further including a chamber exit opening at a base of the chamber opposite the chamber entrance opening, the body further including first and second input ports leading into the chamber, the first and second input ports having different dimensions, for pumping a coating into the chamber, and a drain port leading out of the cup for draining coating out of the body, wherein the cup chamber entrance opening, chamber, and chamber exit opening define a coating pathway in which a fiber enters the body through the cup, passes through an entrance die mounted into the chamber entrance opening, passes through the chamber, and exits the body through a shaping die mounted into the chamber exit opening, the entrance die having an entrance aperture dimensioned so that as that fiber travels along the coating pathway and coating is pumped into the chamber, the coating travels upward through the entrance die around the fiber into the cup, with excess coating material being drained out of the cup through the drain port, the upward flow of coating being sufficiently restricted by the fiber and entrance die such that there is a hydrostatic pressure in the chamber.


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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Laura Edwards whose telephone number is (571) 272-1227. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Laura Edwards
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1734

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June 20, 2005